[9th September 1960

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR: நாற்றங்காலுக்கு அவசியமான உரம் ஸப்ளை செய்யப்படவில்லை என்று தஞ்சாவூர் பூராவும் விவசாயிகள் புகார் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள்.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: கனம் அங்கத்தினர் பத்திரிகையில் யாராவது ஏதாவது எழுதுவதை யதார்த்தமாக எடுத்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடாது.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR: நான் நேரில் பார்த்ததைச் சொன்னேன். பத்திரிகையில் எழுதப்பட்டதைப் பார்த்துவிட்டு நான் இவ்வாறு சொல்லவில்லை.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: கனம் அங்கத்தினருக்கு எவ்வளவு திறமை இருந்தாலும் அவர் எல்லாவற்றையும் நேரில் பார்த்திருக்க முடியாது.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: I think the Hon. Minister for Agriculture is quite aware that when there is great demand and short supply, abuses are bound to occur. What steps do the authorities adopt to see that these fertilizers are not sold in the blackmarket or mixed with other stuffs and sold in the market?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: This is a general complaint in view of the shortage. So far as Thanjavur district is concerned to which this question relates, there is no room for complaints. There is fortunately sufficient stock of ammonium sulphate available and there need not be any worry about it for the present.

Influenza

* 120 *Q.*—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of virulent influenza cases reported in South Arcot district so far and the number that proved fatal;

(*b*) whether the Government have investigated the causes for the same and, if so, what they are; and

(*c*) the preventive measures taken by the Government to control the same?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: (*a*) There have been no cases due to 'Virulent Influenza' in South Arcot. However Mettupalayam village in the district reported 89 cases of a strange disease during 1959. There were two deaths but it is not clear whether they were really due to the disease.

(*b*) Investigations conducted by the Public Health and the Medical Departments and the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, have not established the cause of the disease or its diagnosis.

(*c*) Cases requiring treatment were transferred to the Government Hospital, Villupuram, by two vehicles of the Public Health Department. Action against all vehicles of transmission like food, air and insects was taken by the officers of the Public Health and the Medical Departments who visited the village. No case occurred after the middle of November 1959.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Are the Government trying to find out the causes at least now?

9th September 1960]

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, Sir. They have tried. Two units from the King Institute, Guindy, one a Bacteriological Unit and the other a Water Analysis Unit, were sent for further investigation. The report of the investigation conducted by the Bacteriological Unit shows absence of any bacteriological infection. Allergy was suspected but no positive evidence could be obtained. It is still a mystery. Later on, we tried to take some patients to the General Hospital for examination. But the patients were not willing to be taken over to the hospital.

Filariasis

* 121 *Q*.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Filariasis is prevalent in epidemic form in Poonamallee area; and

(*b*) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to control the disease in that area?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) No, Sir. Filariasis is endemic in Poonamalle area.

(*b*) A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact that the prevalence of filariasis is so wide that even children are being afflicted with this nuisance of a disease?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: We are trying to combat this disease. Now we have taken up anti-malarial measures on a very large scale. We hope to control all these diseases like malaria and filariasis.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : The measures that may be adopted in the case of malaria may not be the methods that may be adopted in the case of filariasis. Whatever it may be, I would like to know whether the health centre that is situated here is rendering any service to the public of Poonamallee in regard to the prevention of filariasis. If it is rendering any service, may I know what kind of service is given?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : This is what is happening. Technical advice is given to the people. The measures taken are aimed at the reduction of the density of culx Fatigans, the Vector mosquito responsible for transmission of filariasis. I think this should be correct.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Yes, it is correct.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The other steps taken are to fill up the ponds with stagnant water. There are cases, I admit. They are not, however, prevalent in an epidemic form.

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[a] Printed as Appendix on page 219 infra.